(d) The reasons for delay in punishing the guilty officers are- examination of bulky and voluminous documents; examination of large number of witnesses; witnesses turning hostile, due to the passage of time crucial evidence get destroyed.

Stopping recruitment to CCS

1653. SHRI EKANATH K.THAKUR: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre is likely to stop direct recruitment to the Central Secretariat Services (CCS), in line with the recommendations of a high level Committee;

(b) if so, whether this move is expected to give a push, to the downsizing of Government staff at the middle level; and

(c) whether this move of Government would benefit the junior employees of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND. PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Government has decided to stop direct recruitment in the grade of Section Officer (SO) of Central Secretariat Service (CSS).

(b) This decision is part of the restructuring exercise of the CSS and will rationalize recruitment in the grade of SO.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Committee for improving the efficiency of officials of Administrative services

†1654. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee has been constituted by Government for improving the efficiency of the officials of Administrative Services;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the said Committee;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) by when the steps to implement the same will be taken by Government; and

(d) the reasons for delay in the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIHARIN PATHAK): (a) to (d) A Group under the Chairmanship of Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Surinder Nath, former Chairman, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) was appointed to review the system of performance appraisal, promotion, empanelment and placement for the All India Services, and other Group 'A' Service. The Group submitted its report to Government in July.2003. The major recommendations of the Group relate to the use of performance appraisal for the overall development of the officer and for his/her placement in an area where his/her abilities and potential can be used to best advantage.

Power generation by private sector in Delhi

1655. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is contemplating to give power generation into the hands of private sector in the NCT of Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ambitious Bawana Power Project of 1000 MW capacity is also likely to be privatized; and

(c) rf so, what are the details of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI .MEHTA): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) The question does not arise.

Assistance provided by PFC to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

1656. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu during the last five years for